Vernstied M.P.

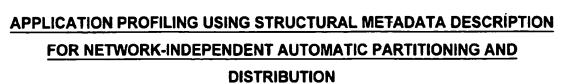
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RELATED APPLICATION DATA

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/102,815, filed October 2, 1998, entitled "Automatic Partitioning and Distribution of Applications," the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates generally to profiling an application using a structural metadata description of the application, and combining the application profile with a network profile to enable network independent automatic partitioning and distribution of the application.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Fueled by the growing importance of the Internet, interest in the area of distributed computing environments (two or more computers connected by a communications medium) has increased in recent years. Programmers desiring to take advantage of distributed computing environments modify existing application programs to perform on distributed computing environments, or design applications for placement on distributed computing environments.

A distributed application is an application containing interconnected application units ("units") that are placed on more than one computer in a distributed computing environment. By placing units on more than one computer in a distributed computing environment, a distributed application can exploit the capabilities of the distributed computing environment to share information and resources, and to increase application reliability and system extensibility. Further,